



PARISH

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Season of Epiphany

4 February 2024

A covenant is a bond in blood sovereignly administered. —O. Palmer Robertson

GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO WORSHIP

It is God Himself who calls His people to worship. We do not call ourselves, but it is the King who opens His gates and beckons us into His courts.

Gospel Invitation—Romans 5:6

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

Sung Response—Come, Thou Fount Of Every Blessing, Vs. 1

Come, thou Fount of ev-'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;

Streams of mer-cy, nev-er ceas-ing, call for songs of loud-est praise.

Teach me some me-lo-dious son-net, sung by flam-ing tongues a-bove;

Praise the mount! I'm fixed up-on it, mount of God's un-changing love.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1758; Music: NETTLETON, Asahel Nettleton, 1825.

Call to Worship—based on Psalm 89:1-4, 8, 52

Pastor: Sing of the steadfast love of the Lord, forever! Make known His faithfulness to all generations.

All: Steadfast love will be built up forever; in the heavens You will establish Your faithfulness.

Reader 1: You have made a covenant with Your chosen one; You have sworn to David Your servant.

Reader 2: Establish David's offspring forever, and build his throne for all generations.

All: O Lord God of hosts, who is mighty as You are, O Lord, with Your faithfulness all around You?

Pastor: Blessed be the Lord forever! Amen and Amen.

Congregational Hymn—To Our Redeemer's Glorious Name



To our Re - deem - er's glor - ious name a - wake the sac - red song:
Let won - der still with love u - nite, and gra - ti - tude and joy;
Dear Lord, while we a - dor - ing pay our hum - ble thanks to Thee,
O may the sweet, the bliss - ful theme fill ev - ery heart and tongue,



O may His love— im - mor - tal flame—tune ev - ery heart and tongue.
Be Jes - us our su - preme de - light, His praise our best em - ploy.
May ev - ery heart with glad - ness say, the Sav - ior died for me.
Till strang - ers love Thy charm - ing name, and join the sa - cred song.

Text: Anne Steel, 1760; Music: MCKEE, Irish Melody, arr. H. T. Burleigh, 1939.

GOD SPEAKS TO HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

The Bible is the means by which God graciously reveals Himself to His people—so we listen, read, and study with expectant hearts.

Antiphonal Scripture Song—Song At The Sea

* REFRAIN

Leader



To the Lord I will sing for His glo-rious vic-to-ry; the horse and the ri-der He has thrown in-to the sea.

Congregation



To the Lord I will sing for His glo-rious vic-to-ry; the horse and the ri-der He has thrown in-to the sea. *Fine*

Leader



The Lord is my strength and my song, sal - va - tion He brings to me;
For Phar - aoh and all of his host, He cast them in - to the sea,
The en - e - my vowed to pur - sue, to ru - in to rape to spoil;
You led to Your ho - ly a - bode the peo - ple whom You re - deemed;
You plant them on Your ho - ly hill, the moun - tain which You have made,



My fa - ther's God, He is my God, and I will ex - alt and praise.
The floods went up; and in the depths their char - i - ots sank like stones.
The sea rose up and cov - ered them; in wa - ter they sank like lead.
The na - tions heard; they trem - ble still; all Ca - naan shall melt a - way.
Es - tab - lished there by Your right hand, for - ev - er with You they'll reign.

Congregation



The Lord is a man of war; Je - ho - vah is His name. *
Your hand shows your glor - ious pow'r to crush your en - e - mies.
O who is like You, my Lord, in per - fect ho - li - ness? *
On them shall great ter - ror fall till all Your folk pass by.
Ma - jes - tic are all Your deeds, the won - ders of Your hand. *

Text: Exodus 15:1-21, Henry C. Haffner. 2022; Music: MIDNIGHT SUN. Henry C. Haffner, 2022.

Scripture Reading—Exodus 24:5-8

[Moses] sent young men of the people of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the Lord. And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he threw against the altar. Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it in the hearing of the people. And they said, “All that the Lord has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient.” And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, “Behold the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you in accordance with all these words.”

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Hymn—Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

A - las! and did my Sa - vior bleed, and did my Sov - ereign die! ___
Was it for crimes that I have done, He groaned up - on the tree? ___
Well might the sun in dark - ness hide, and shut his glor - ies in, ___
Thus might I hide my blush - ing face while His dear cross ap - pears; ___
But drops of grief can ne'er re - pay the debt of love I owe; ___

Would He de - vote that sa - cred head for sin - ners such as I?
A - maz - ing pi - ty! Grace un - known! And love be - yond de - gree!
When Christ, the migh - ty ma - ker, died for man the crea - ture's sin.
Dis - solve my heart in thank - ful - ness, and melt mine eyes in tears.
Here, Lord, I give my - self a - way, 'tis all ___ that I can do.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1707; Music: MARTYRDOM, Hugh Wilson, 1824.

Reading of the Word—Hebrews 9:15-28


¹⁵Therefore He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant. ¹⁶For where a will is involved, the death of the one who made it must be established. ¹⁷For a will takes effect only at death, since it is not in force as long as the one who made it is alive. ¹⁸Therefore not even the first covenant was inaugurated without blood. ¹⁹For when every commandment of the law had been declared by Moses to all the people, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, ²⁰saying, “This is the blood of the covenant that God commanded for you.” ²¹And in the same way he sprinkled with the blood both the tent and all the vessels used in worship. ²²Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

²³Thus it was necessary for the copies of the heavenly things to be purified with these rites, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. ²⁴For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. ²⁵Nor was it to offer Himself repeatedly, as the high priest enters the holy places every year with blood not His own, ²⁶for then He would have had to suffer repeatedly since the foundation of the world. But as it is, He has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. ²⁷And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, ²⁸so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for Him.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—The Church's One Foundation, Vs. 1



The Church-'s one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ her Lord;
She is His new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the Word;
From Heav'n He came and sought her to be His ho - ly bride;
With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1866; Music: AURELIA, Samuel J. Wesley, 1864.

Sermon—*The Blood of the Eternal Covenant*

—Pastor, James Crampton

GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO CONFESSION, REPENTANCE, AND RECONCILIATION

The people of God respond to His Word by confessing their sins, repenting of their sinful ways, and seeking God's favor through the reconciling work of Jesus, the Son of God.

Confession of Sin—based on Psalm 51:1, 4, 7, 14, 16-17

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your steadfast love; according to Your abundant mercy blot out our transgressions.

All: **Against You, You only, have we sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You may be justified in Your words and blameless in Your judgment.**

Pastor: Purge us with hyssop, and we shall be clean; wash us, and we shall be whiter than snow.

All: **Deliver us from bloodguiltiness, O God, O God of our salvation, and our tongue will sing aloud of Your righteousness.**

Pastor: For You will not delight in sacrifice, or we would give it; You will not be pleased with a burnt offering.

All: **The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.**

(Silent Prayers of Confession)

Sung Response—Kyrie

WOMEN
Lord have mer - cy — Christ have mer - cy —

MEN
Lord have mer - cy — Christ have mer - cy —

— Lord have mer - cy — Up - on us.

Lord have mer - cy — Up - on us.

The musical score is for a Kyrie response, featuring two parts: Women and Men. It is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The Women part is on a treble clef staff, and the Men part is on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: 'Lord have mer - cy — Christ have mer - cy —'. The second system shows the continuation of the lyrics: '— Lord have mer - cy — Up - on us.' and 'Lord have mer - cy — Up - on us.'.

Text: Traditional; Music: Nathan George & Henry C. Haffner, 2012.

Assurance of Pardon—Ephesians 1:7-8; Matthew 28:19-20

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace, which He lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight.

Pastor: This is the promise of God.

All: This is the Word of the Lord.

Pastor: Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

All: Thanks be to God, our refuge, our strength, and our redeemer.

Sung Response—Fivefold Amen

A - men, a - men. A - men, a - men, a - men.

The musical score is for a 'Fivefold Amen' response. It is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody is on a treble clef staff, and the accompaniment is on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: 'A - men, a - men. A - men, a - men, a - men.'.

Text: Traditional; Music: Traditional African-American Spiritual, arr. Nelsie T. Johnson, 1988.

HEAVENLY GIFT—*EUCCHARISTO*

As God beckons His people to the bounty of His table, they make joyous profession of their fealty to Him.

Profession of Faith—The Apostles' Creed

We believe in God:

The Father Almighty, the Creator of Heaven and Earth;

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: who was conceived of the Holy Spirit,

Born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,

Was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into Hell.

On the third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into Heaven and now sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

From whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit; the one holy church—both visible and invisible;

The communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;

The resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.

Amen.

Sursum Corda

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth. Therefore, we praise You, Triune God, and we join our voices with the angels, the archangels, and the whole company of Heaven in this hymn of eternal praise:

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly is the Lord God Al - might - y,
Heav'n and Earth are full of Thy glor - y, glor - y be un - to Thee,
O Lord most high, O Lord most high, O Lord most high, A - men.

Text: Traditional, based on Isaiah 6:3, Revelation 4:8;

Music: Nathan George, 2013.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND THE LORD'S TABLE

This table is open to all baptized Christians who have made a profession of faith. You may come forward to receive the bread and wine or grape juice.

Congregational Hymn—Let Thy Blood In Mercy Poured



Let Thy blood in mer - cy poured, let Thy gra - cious bod - y bro - ken,
Thou didst die that I might live; bless - ed Lord, Thou cam'st to save me:
By the thorns that crowned Thy brow, by the spear wound and the nail - ing,
Wilt Thou own the gift I bring? All my pen - i - tence I give Thee;



Be to me, O gra - cious Lord, of Thy bound - less love the to - ken.
All that love of God could give Je - sus by His sor - rows gave me.
By the pain and death, I now claim, O Christ, Thy love un - fail - ing.
Thou art my ex - alt - ed King, of Thy match - less love for - give me.



Thou didst give Thy - self for me, now I give my - self to Thee.

Text: Greek Hymn, tr. John Brownlie, 1907: Music: JESUS, MEINE ZUVERSICHT, Johann Crüger, 1653.

Congregational Hymn—How Great Thou Art



O Lord my God, when I in awes-ome won-der con - si - der all the worlds Thy hands have made,
And when I think that God, His Son not spar-ing, sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in,
When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!



I see the stars, I hear the roll-ing thun-der, Thy power through-out the un - i - verse dis - played:
That on the cross, my bur - den glad - ly bear-ing, He bled and died to take a - way my sin:
Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad - o - ra - tion, and there pro - claim, "My God, how great Thou art!"



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to Thee: How great Thou art! How great Thou art!



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to Thee: How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

CCLI #2844402 Text: Stuart K. Hine, 1949; Music: O STORE GUD, Swedish Folk Melody,
harm. Stuart K. Hine, 1949.

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND IN GRATEFUL PRAISE, PETITIONS, TITHES & OFFERINGS

Our praying, serving, and giving are essential aspects of worship. It is here that our faith moves from our heads and hearts into our lives and callings.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession—The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.

Congregational Hymn—Man Of Sorrows!



Man of Sor - rows! what a name for the Son of God, who came
Bear - ing shame and scoff - ing rude, in my place con - demned He stood;
Guilt - y, vile, and help - less we; spot - less Lamb of God was He;
Lift - ed up was He to die; "It is fn - ished!" was His cry;

Ru - ined sin - ners to re - claim. Hal - le - lu - jah! What a Sav - ior!
Sealed my par - don with His blood. Hal - le - lu - jah! What a Sav - ior!
"Full a - tone - ment!" can it be? Hal - le - lu - jah! What a Sav - ior!
Now in Heav'n ex - alt - ed high. Hal - le - lu - jah! What a Sav - ior!

Text and Music: Phillip P. Bliss, 1875.

GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT

After calling His people into His presence, forgiving their sins, instructing them in His Word, and providing a foretaste of the marriage supper of the Lamb, God sends His people into the world to show His light in the darkness.

Benediction—Hebrews 13:20-21

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. *Amen.*

Sung Response—Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below;
praise Him above ye heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1674; Music: OLD 100TH, Louis Bourgeois, 1551.

Announcements

Worship Notes:

Those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant. —Hebrews 9:15b

The elements in this morning's service all point to one conclusion, a conclusion both terrible and comforting: Jesus had to die. We'll read that the new covenant was "inaugurated with blood" (Hebrews 9:15) just as the old one was (Exodus 24:8; Hebrews 9:18). We'll confess in song that "the Savior died for me" (*To Our Redeemer's Glorious Name*), that Christ "died for man the creature's sin" (*Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed*), and that He bought us with His own blood (*The Church's One Foundation*). We'll declare that His spilled blood and broken body are the token of His "boundless love" (*Let Thy Blood In Mercy Poured*), and we fall down in humble adoration before a God who sent His own Son to die to take away our sin (*How Great Thou Art*). Unlike the ancient priests who had to continually sacrifice animals because their work was never complete, we hear Jesus cry, "It is finished!" (*Man Of Sorrows!*). We are sent out with a blessing because the Savior who died was then "brought again from the dead" (Hebrews 13:20), securing for us eternal life and equipping us with all we need. —Henry C. Haffner

Key Words: Will, Death, Blood, Covenant, Purify, Forgiveness, Once

Keystone Verse: Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins. (Hebrews 9:22)



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All Biblical quotes taken from the English Standard Version unless otherwise noted.